In case of Lok.Sabha, a total of 57 constituencies from out of 21 States and 2 Union Territories namely (Andaman & Nicobar Islands) and Chandigarh have been selected randomly. Except for Andaman & Nicobar, Chandigarh and Sikkim (where there is only 1 Lok Sabha Constituency each) a minimum of 2 Lok Sabha constituencies have been selected randomly from every State. While selecting the samples, efforts have been made to cover different geographical regions of every State. The sample has been purposive in the sense that from out of every two consitutencies selected, one has been out of such consitutencies of the State where the expenditure incurred was higher while in the other it was lower.

Selection of district

In the case of every selected Lok Sabha Constituency and Rajya Sabha MP, a District-wise list of works undertaken on the recommendation of the concerned MP was prepared. From out of those the district where the maximum number of works under MPLADS were undertaken was selected for detailed study.

Review of Implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes in Himachal Pradesh

5002. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the system of time bound review of physical and economical implementation of various Centrally sponsored schemes and programmes in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) whether the said action has been taken by Government in Himachal Pradesh;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (d) Centrally Sponsored Schemes are formulated by various Central Ministries/Departments in consultation with the State Governments/Union Territories Administration and are implemented by State

Governments/Union Territories and monitored by the administrative Ministries concerned. The Planning Commission reviews the implementation of Plan schemes during the Annual Plan discussion with the State Governments/Union Territories.

Estimate of People below poverty line

5003. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the latest NSSO data about the estimate of people living below the poverty line brings out a very bleak picture;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the way they compare with the figures of late phase of the pre-reform period; and

(c) how do they compare with the data publishing in "World Economic Outlook' by World Bank about India and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission estimates the percentage of persons living below the poverty line at national and state level from the large sample surveys on consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey (NSS) Organization at an interval of approximately five years. The latest estimate of poverty is available for the year 1993-94, based on the large survey on consumer expenditure conducted during the period July, 1993 to June, 1994 (NSS 50th Round). For the late phase of the pre-reform period, the poverty estimates are available for the year 1987-88. Comparing the estimate of poverty in these two periods i.e., 1993-94 and 1987-88, it is observed that the percentage of people living below the poverty line declined from 38.86% in 1987-88 to 35.97% in 1993-94, *i.e.*, by 2.89 percentage point.

(c) The World Bank Report No. 19471-IN entitled India Policies to Reduce Poverty and Accelerate Sustainable Development has published the estimates of poverty ratio as 38.47% in 1987-88 and 35.04% in 1993-94.